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portions of the volume that are devoted to "routing work through the shops, payment of labor," and "time studies" are especially interesting.

The book contains a lengthy appendix "Organization Record of the Ferracute Machine Company." This lays down exactly what the duties and responsibilities of each member of the organization are. It goes, therefore, without saying, that that company employs the Taylor and not the Emerson system.

The Tuck School Conference was divided into six sessions; the first devoted to Principles of Scientific Management; the second, to Scientific Management and the Laborer; the third, to Scientific Management and the Manager; the fourth, to the Applicability of Scientific Management in Certain Industries; the fifth, to Scientific Management and Government, and the sixth, to Phases of Scientific Management. Some of the leading specialists of the country in this field attended the conference, among them F. W. Taylor, Harrington Emerson and H. L. Gantt.

As in nearly all conferences, much was said that was elementary in character or that had little bearing upon the subject in hand. But it is fair to say that less of this was in evidence at the Tuck Conference than is usually the case. Several of the speeches were unusually interesting and informative, while some of the discussion developed many points that are not commonplaces to the students of the subject.

Both volumes it may be said, in conclusion, are interesting and valuable contributions to the extant literature on "Scientific Management."

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REES, J. D. *Current Political Problems*. Pp. xi, 423. Price, \$1.40. New York: Longmans, Green & Co, 1912.

The "Current Political Problems" are those before the British public at the present time, but the real subject of the work is the attitude of the political parties towards these problems. The book is written primarily for the British voter, and assumes, with regard to most of the topics treated, a knowledge on the part of the reader, such as might be gained from the casual perusal of newspapers. The provisions of the Lloyd George budget and of the Declaration of London, for example, receive little explanation, while other topics less well-known or less recently the subject of general discussion, such as foreign affairs and education, are given more exposition. On the whole, however, the tone is distinctly argumentative, and, since the author frankly acknowledges inclinations "in the Unionist direction" (p. v), the book becomes mainly a justification for the attitude of the Unionist party. The author endeavors to remedy this one-sidedness by a summary statement at the end of each chapter of arguments both for and against the policies considered. These fairly deserve the author's claim of impartiality, though they can scarcely be regarded as systematic or thorough.

The contents cover so wide a range that it is impossible to give them an adequate survey here, but some of the more significant views may be noted. The keynote of the treatment of the army and navy is their inadequacy to protect the empire and also defend England from German attack. The chapters

on India, the colonies and foreign affairs are largely expository, but through them runs the note of opposition to the anti-imperial attitude of the Radical-Socialist-Labour group. This party is, in fact, the red rag throughout the book, and later socialism comes in for a chapter of condemnation to itself. On the constitutional question, the franchise, apportionment of representation, Irish home rule, education, disestablishment and taxation, the well-known Unionist views are fortified by argument, and an earnest plea for tariff reform is not omitted. With regard to social reform the author insists that the Unionist party should take a positive attitude, but discreetly leaves the reader to guess what the concrete policies should be. The book is of value, therefore, chiefly for its statement of the principles of the Unionist party as a member of the party sees them and for the summaries of certain contemporary political issues.

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VINEBERG, S. *Provincial and Local Taxation in Canada.* Pp. 171. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1912.

This contribution to our somewhat undeveloped stock of literature on fiscal affairs is not only timely but extremely valuable. In this epoch of increasing interest in taxation, especially in our American states and local governmental areas, it is necessary, at all times, to keep in touch with the practical experiences of other localities, especially when such localities have been more progressive and more independent than is the case in this country. Canadian experiences, of whatever nature, illustrate valuable lessons in statesmanship and local administration. The author of this contribution on the revenue problems of Canada has combined three very essential factors of analysis in his review. The historical background is clearly presented; the practical results of definite experiences are specifically shown; and in addition the author has given us the benefit of his own personal criticisms and suggestions. Though the latter factor may be subject to some disagreement in particular cases, its existence in this volume helps rather than hinders, for the reader is forced to give a more critical attention to the concrete subject matter. Another point of value is his very clear and lucid division of topics, thereby making it possible for the work to be used as a handbook of reference. In particular, his analysis of the failure of the personal property tax, the business assessment, and taxes on real estate are to be strongly commended. The absence of vague technicalities is a virtue in itself. The copious citations and the supplementary appendix help to emphasize the solid and scientific character of the investigation. Generally speaking, its chief merit would seem to lie in the fact that the author has apparently had few preconceived ideas in regard to the merits or demerits of any system or method, as theoretically applied. Each topic is analyzed on a basis of the natural and necessary relation between the social and economic conditions of the locality and the actual administration of the method cited. It would be well if more of the many monographs on taxation and kindred subjects could be as clearly and efficiently presented.

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